Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 15 as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2003/010192.

Please add <u>new</u> claims 16 to 30 as indicated in the listing of claims below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (new):   A device for producing a processing tool arranged and configured to process at least one electronic workflow comprising working steps on a first data processing system, the device comprising:

a facility for producing an information model, the information model including data object types and relations between the data object types;

a specifying facility for producing an electronic specification of a workflow, utilizing the information model;

a configuring facility for configuring a prescribed standard processing tool as a function of the specification, the prescribed standard processing tool including a prescribed data storage system; and

an adapting facility for adapting the prescribed data storage system to the information model; wherein the facility for producing the information model is arranged and configured for executing an operation for adding, deleting or changing data object types of a prescribed information model; and for executing an operation for adding, deleting or changing relations between the data object types;

wherein the configuring facility is arranged and configured for executing an operation for selecting, adding, deleting, changing or linking working steps; for executing an operation for selecting a data object type of the information model and producing a data object of a selected

data object type; and for executing an operation for linking data objects with working steps.

Claim 17 (new):   The device of claim 16, further comprising a library with electronic standard workflows, each electronic standard workflow being assigned a standard processing tool, and, wherein

the specifying facility is arranged and configured to execute an operation for selecting a standard workflow from the library and executing an operation for working on the selected standard workflow,

the configuring facility being arranged and configured for executing an operation for configuring a standard processing tool assigned to the selected standard workflow.

Claim 18 (new):   The device of claim17 wherein the library comprises at least one of electronic standard workflow for a supply management of a company manufacturing technical products, selected from the group consisting of :

determination of strategies or prescribed specifications for order-placement decisions for a prescribed extent of procurement to at least one supplier,

order placement of a predetermined extent of procurement to at least one supplier,

handling of changes to at least one prescribed extent of procurement,

recording or assessment of at least one supplier,

monitoring of a procurement operation for a prescribed extent of procurement,

cost reduction for a prescribed extent of procurement,

forming of a cost target for at least one prescribed extent of procurement, and

forming of a cost target for at least one cost type associated with at least one prescribed extent of procurement.

Claim 19 (new):   The device of claim 16 wherein the information model comprises

a data object type for component types,

a data object type for suppliers

and a data object type for extents of procurement, and

wherein the data object type for extents of procurement is connected by a respective relation to the data object type for component types and the data object type for suppliers.

Claim 20 (new): The device of claim 19 further comprising a facility for producing a data object generator and for integrating the generator in the processing tool

and the data object generator being arranged and configured to generate a first data object of the data object type for extents of procurement and data objects of the data object type for suppliers and of the data object type for component types,

the first data object being arranged and configured for connectability to the data objects by relations during an entire processing of the electronic workflow.

Claim 21 (new): The device of claim 20 wherein the information model comprises a data object type for partial extents of procurement, connected by a relation to the data object type for suppliers, and

wherein each data object of the data object type for partial extents of procurement being arranged and configured for connectability to at most one data object of the data object type for suppliers during processing.

Claim 22 (new): The device of claim 16, further comprising a library of standard business rules which relate to data object types and working steps, and a facility for selecting standard business rules.

Claim 23 (new): The device of claim 16 wherein the facility for producing the information model further comprises a facility for producing a data model compatible with the information model by using the Unified Modelling Language.

Claim 24 (new): A method for producing a processing tool, the processing tool processing at least one electronic workflow comprising working steps on a first data processing system, and a second data processing system being used for producing the processing tool, the method comprising the steps of:

producing an information model for the workflow, the step of producing being carried out by adapting a prescribed information model and, during the adaptation, executing an

operation for adding deleting or changing data object types and relations between data object types,

producing a specification of the workflow by using data object types and relations of the adapted information model,

adapting a standard processing tool comprising a prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model,

adapting the prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model, and

configuring the adapted standard processing tool as a function of the specification.

Claim 25 (new): The method of claim 24 comprising the further steps of:

selecting at least one electronic workflow from a library of electronic standard workflows with working steps, each electronic standard workflow being assigned a standard processing tool,

assigning the adapted standard processing tool to the selected standard workflow, and

in the production of the specification, adapting the selected standard workflow to the workflow to be processed to thereby modify the working steps of the standard workflow.

Claim 26 (new): The method of claim 24 comprising the further step of producing a source program for the processing tool, the source program being executable after translation into a machine language on the first data processing system.

Claim 27 (new): The method of claim 24, comprising the further step of:

by analysis of the processing tool produced, determining working steps of the electronic workflow having influence on a processing time of the processing tool.

Claim 28 (new): The method of claim 24 comprising the further steps of:

producing a second processing tool for processing a further electronic workflow,

determining for each of the processing tool and the second processing tool average numbers of generated screen forms, of required screen interactions, of databank reading accesses and of databank writing accesses, and

producing a comparison of a workflow and a second further workflow in respect of the average numbers.

Claim 29 (new): A computer program which can be loaded directly into the internal memory of a computer and comprises software modules with which a method for producing a processing tool is executed, the processing tool processing at least one electronic workflow comprising working steps on a first data processing system, and a second data processing system being used for producing the processing tool, the method can be executed when the program runs on a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

producing an information model for the workflow, the step of producing being carried out by adapting a prescribed information model and, during the adaptation, executing an operation for adding deleting or changing data object types and relations between data object types,

producing a specification of the workflow by using data object types and relations of the adapted information model,

adapting a standard processing tool comprising a prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model,

adapting the prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model, and

configuring the adapted standard processing tool as a function of the specification.

Claim 30 (new): A computer program product which is stored on a medium which can be read by a computer and which has program modules which can be read by a computer and cause the computer to execute a method for producing a processing tool, the processing tool processing at least one electronic workflow comprising working steps on a first data processing system, and a second data processing system being used for producing the processing tool, the method comprising the steps of:

producing an information model for the workflow, the step of producing being carried out by adapting a prescribed information model and, during the adaptation, executing an operation for adding deleting or changing data object types and relations between data object types,

producing a specification of the workflow by using data object types and relations of the adapted information model,

adapting a standard processing tool comprising a prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model,

adapting the prescribed data storage system to the adapted information model, and

configuring the adapted standard processing tool as a function of the specification.